

**APPENDIX A - CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

**Serial No.: 09/894,031**

**Docket No.: 60586-300601**

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1. (Currently amended) A preparation ~~device~~ method of polyester, which adds an organic solvent to a dicarboxylic acid and a diol so that the dicarboxylic acid and the diol are melt-polycondensated to prepare polyester, wherein said preparation method uses a preparation device comprising:

a polycondensating reactor in which the dicarboxylic acid and the diol are polycondensated; under a normal pressure by adding a catalyst having a hydrophobic property thereto;

wherein a separating device, which is attached to the reactor and which separates the organic solvent and water that are distilled from the reactor, while discharging the separated water outside the system and fluxing the organic solvent, is attached to the reactor; and

the dicarboxylic acid and diol are polycondensated under a normal pressure by adding a distannoxane as a catalyst.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) The preparation ~~device~~ method of polyester according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said polycondensating reactor used in said preparation method is ~~an~~ a longitudinal-type reactor in which a stirrer, which maintains separated two-phase states having a phase consisting of a mixed solution containing the dicarboxylic acid, the diol and polyester to be generated and an organic solvent phase covering the other phase, and stirs the mixed solution, is installed.

4. (Currently amended) The preparation ~~device~~ method of polyester according to claim 3, wherein a dissolving vessel for melting and uniforming the dicarboxylic acid and the diol is installed at the preceding stage of the polycondensating reactor.

5. (New) The preparation method of polyester according to claim 1, wherein the boiling point of said organic solvent is not less than the boiling point of water or it has a boiling point not less than the melting point of polyester to be generated.

6. (New) A method of preparing polyester comprising:
  - providing a polycondensating reactor and a separating device operably attached to the reactor;
  - placing dicarboxylic acid, diol, and an organic solvent in the reactor;
  - separating the organic solvent and water from the reactor with the separating device; and,
  - adding distannoxane to the reactor to act as a catalyst in polycondensating the dicarboxylic acid and the diol to form a polyester.
7. (New) The method of claim 6 wherein the step of providing a polycondensating reactor and a separating device operably attached to the reactor comprises providing a longitudinal-type polycondensating reactor with an installed stirrer and a separating device operably attached to the reactor, the stirrer capable of maintaining two-phase states wherein one phase consists of a mixed solution containing dicarboxylic acid, diol, and the polyester to be generated, and the other phase consists of an organic solvent phase.
8. (New) The method of claim 7 further comprising:
  - providing a dissolving vessel installed at a preceding stage of the polycondensating reactor;
  - melting and uniforming the dicarboxylic acid and the diol in the dissolving vessel prior to placing the dicarboxylic acid and the diol in the reactor with the organic solvent.
9. (New) The method of claim 6 wherein placing dicarboxylic acid, diol, and an organic solvent in the reactor comprises placing dicarboxylic acid, diol, and an organic solvent having a boiling point that is equal to or greater than the boiling point of water.
10. (New) The method of claim 6 wherein placing dicarboxylic acid, diol, and an organic solvent in the reactor comprises placing dicarboxylic acid, diol, and an organic solvent having a boiling point that is equal to or greater than the boiling point of the polyester to be generated.